



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 148

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2002

No. 83

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The guest Chaplain, Bob Russell of Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, KY, will lead the Senate in prayer.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Father, You are the God who sees everything. You know the number of hairs on our head, our needs before we ask, and even the thoughts of our hearts. Would You meet the individual needs of the Members of this body so they can give focus and attention to the important matters of this day without distraction.

Some have physical pain. Would You ease their discomfort and bring healing. Some have tension in their homes because of wayward children or troubled mates. Would You bring peace to those homes.

Some have financial worries. Would You remind them that You care for the birds of the air and the lilies of the field and You will care for us, too. Some are under severe stress because of so much to do and so little time to do it. Ease their tension, Lord. Wipe the furrows from their brow and remind them that Your grace is sufficient for this day.

Some harbor animosity toward people who have offended them. They know that Your word says to forgive quickly. It is just so hard to do it. Help them to have the grace to release that irritation and experience the freedom of forgiveness. We all have the need for forgiveness of our own sin and hope for life beyond. So Lord, grant us the humility to trust You completely for those things that we can't control, and grant the confidence to us that we can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us. It is in His strong name that we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JACK REED led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 20, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. REED thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore. The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky.

WELCOMING GUEST CHAPLAIN BOB RUSSELL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the Senate has had an opportunity this morning to hear from one of the most distinguished spiritual leaders in America. He happens to be an individual who lives in my hometown of Louisville, KY, the senior minister at Southeast Christian Church, Bob Russell, who ministers to literally thousands of individuals in Louisville, southern Indiana, and surrounding areas. He built his church over a number of decades from a small group of individuals who gathered in a basement-like structure to a mighty building, but the program there is much more than a building. The magic of his min-

istry and those who are associated with him has attracted an enormous number of people and has changed the lives, literally, of tens of thousands of people in that area of our country.

What a privilege it has been to have him with us this morning. The Senate has had a rare opportunity to hear from really one of the great ministers of America.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10:30. The first half is under the control of the majority leader; the second half is under the control of the Republican leader. The Chair will announce that shortly. At 10:30 the Senate will resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill. Pending is the Feingold-Conrad amendment. It is an extremely important amendment dealing with budgeting. There should be some important discussion on that that should go for a significant amount of time. It is up to the parties as to how long we will be on that, but it is an important amendment. The two managers are working their way through amendments that they believe can be accepted. We would like to make a big chunk in this bill today. There is a lot more to do. The majority leader has indicated that if we finish this bill, it will give us the opportunity to go to some of the other issues that are so pressing. The leader has indicated there will be votes tomorrow.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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